Amendments to the Claims

1. (Original) A method for detecting a DNA strand break, comprising the steps of:
binding a PprA protein derived from <u>Deinococcus radiodurans</u> or a fragment thereof to a DNA strand break;

and

detecing the PprA protein or a fragment thereof bound to the DNA strand break.

- 2. (Original) The method for detecting a DNA strand break according to Claim 1, wherein the PprA protein derived from <u>Deinococcus radiodurans</u> or a fragment thereof is a protein having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or a fragment thereof.
- 3. (Canceled)
- 4. (Canceled)
- 5. (Original) A kit for detecting a DNA strand break, comprising an amount of PprA protein derived from <u>Deinococcus radiodurans</u> or a fragment thereof and a means for detecting the PprA protein or a fragment thereof.
- 6. (Original) The kit for detecting a DNA strand break according to Claim 5, wherein the PprA protein derived from <u>Deinococcus radiodurans</u> or a fragment thereof is a protein having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or a fragment thereof.

- 7. (Canceled)
- 8. (Canceled)
- 9. (New) The method for detecting a DNA strand break according to Claim 1, wherein the PprA protein or a fragment thereof bound to the DNA strand break is detected using an antibody or a fragment thereof which specifically bind to the PprA protein or a fragment thereof.
- 10. (New) The method for detecting a DNA strand break according to Claim 9, wherein the antibody is a polyclonal antibody or a monoclonal antibody.
- 11. (New) The method for detecting a DNA strand break according to Claim 2, wherein the PprA protein or a fragment thereof bound to the DNA strand break is detected using an antibody or a fragment thereof which specifically bind to the PprA protein or a fragment thereof.
- 12. (New) The method for detecting a DNA strand break according to Claim 10, wherein the antibody is a polyclonal antibody or a monoclonal antibody.
- 13. (New) The kit for detecting a DNA strand break according to Claim 5, wherein the means for detecting the PprA protein or a fragment thereof comprises an antibody or a fragment thereof which specifically binds to the PprA protein or a fragment thereof.

- 14. (New) The kit for detecting a DNA strand break according to Claim 13, wherein the antibody is a polyclonal or a monoclonal antibody.
- 15. (New) The kit for detecting a DNA strand break according to Claim 6, wherein the means for detecting the PprA protein or a fragment thereof comprises an antibody or a fragment thereof which specifically binds to the PprA protein or a fragment thereof.
- 16. (New) The kit for detecting a DNA strand break according to Claim 14, wherein the antibody is a polyclonal or a monoclonal antibody.